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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/826,732

Examiner

Alonzo Chambliss

Applicant(s)

SCHAFBAUER ET AL.

Art Unit

2827

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to election of claims filed on 5/9/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 05 April 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 7/2/03 and 7/23/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Alonzo Chambliss
Primary Examiner
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DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election of claims 1-4 in the reply filed on 5/9/04 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).
2. Claims 5-20 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected claims, there being no allowable generic or linking claim.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 7/2/03 and 7/23/03 was filed before the mailing date of the notice of allowance on 8/7/04. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
5. The application has been amended as follow:

IN CLAIMS:

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Cancel claims 5-20, since applicant elected claims 1-4 which was treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a))

IN SPECIFICATION:

On page 10, line 9, delete " 50 ";

On page 10, line 13, delete " 14A " and insert instead -- 20A --;

On page 10, line 14, delete " 14B " and insert instead -- 20B --;

On page 11, line 9, delete " 51A " and insert instead -- 151A --;

On page 11, line 10, delete " 51B " and insert instead -- 151B --;

On page 12, line 10, delete " 51A and 51B " and insert instead --151A and 151B --;

The title of the invention has been changed to "A STRUCTURE FOR DETERMINING EDGES OF REGIONS IN A SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER ". Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowance subject matter: the prior art of record does not teach or suggest the combination of an insulating layer over a portion of the top surface of semiconductor body of a first conductivity type. A semiconductor region of a second opposite conductivity type adjacent the semiconductor body for forming a p-n junction. A plurality of spaced apart conductive strips each having first and second ends with the first

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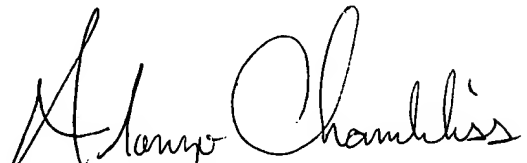
ends at the top surface of the semiconductor body. A second end of at least one of the conductive strips making low resistance contact with the semiconductor region and at least one failing to make a low resistance contact in claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning the communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alonzo Chambliss whose telephone number is (703) 306-9143. The fax phone number for the Group is (703) 308-772 or 7724.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-7956.

AC/August 7, 2004


Alonzo Chambliss
Primary Patent Examiner
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